

USSR

Reference: 3/PPDT/T67

1. JÉRÔME
 2. GENERAL FULLER
 3. BOMB DAMAGE IN LONDON
- (1940)

From: LONDON

To: MOSCOW

No: 1056

23rd Sept, 40

To DIRECTOR.

1. JÉRÔME [THOMSON][i] has reported that General DE GAULLE and his troops are in SIERRA LEONE to attack DAKAR from the landward side.
2. General FULLER [ii] writes that the SAUSAGE-DEALERS [KOLBASNIKI][iii] could launch an army of five mechanised divisions against Britain. Each division has in all 360 tanks, 960 motor vehicles and 250 motorcycles. 1,300-1,500 barges would be required to transport this army. He points out that against a weak Poland the SAUSAGE-DEALERS launched 37 infantry divisions, five motorised, five armoured and four light mechanised divisions, with one cavalry brigade and one tank regiment per corps. He is doubtful whether it is possible for the SAUSAGE-DEALERS to carry out a serious invasion. People are becoming increasingly doubtful here whether the SAUSAGE-DEALERS will invade. Some people cannot understand why, since 10th September, the SAUSAGE-DEALERS have been using relatively small forces to bomb Britain and the night raids have been by one, two or three aircraft. Some of the British consider that the SAUSAGE-DEALERS are shunning the risk of losing large groups of aircraft because of the growth of the Soviet Air-Force [AVIATsITA], whilst others think that the war may switch to the Middle East.
3. According to information from a [B% correspondent][iv] 50 percent of all the damage in the LONDON docks resulted from the bombing of 7th September. The [B% petroleum depot] at ROTHERHITHE and the timber yards at the SURREY COMMERCIAL and SOUTHWEST INDIA Docks were burnt down. The [ROYAL][v] VICTORIA DOCK was damaged. Some chemical works and a petroleum

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refinery in SHEPHERDTON was destroyed. Some factories in GREENWICH and CHARLTON [ChAL'TON] were damaged. The gasworks in BECTON and STEPNEY were damaged. Bombs were dropped on KINGS CROSS, WILLESDEN JUNCTION, CLAPHAM JUNCTION and WIMBLEDON railway stations but traffic was not interrupted. Some warehouses in CITY ROAD were burnt down. A magnetic bomb is said to have been dropped in the TOTTENHAM area, damaging hundreds of houses.

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BARCH [v]

Notes: [a] Inserted by translator.

Comments: ✓[1] JÉRÔME: André LABARTHE, Director-General of French Armament and Scientific Research at General DE GAULLE's headquarters till September 1940.. See also LONDON's Nos. 741 of 8th July 1940 (3/NBF/T1773), 776 of 17th July 1940 (3/NBF/T1472), 784 of 18th July 1940, 791 of 20th July 1940, 798 of 22nd July 1940, 807 of 24th July 1940, 865 of 10th August 1940, 987 of 6th September 1940 and 2151 of 6th August 1941 (3/NBF/T1477).

✓[11] FULLER: Maj.-Gen. J.F.C. FULLER.

✓[111] SAUSAGE-DEALERS: the Goffmans.

[iv] Correspondent: This is unlikely to be a covername since "According to information from a correspondent" is enclosed by a single group, rather than the two groups which would be expected in the case of a covername.

[v] BARCH: Possibly Simon Davidovich BREMER, whose official post was Secretary to the Soviet Military Attaché in LONDON. He was appointed in 1937 and is thought to have left sometime in 1946. The covername BARCH occurs as a LONDON addressee and signatory between 3rd March 1940 and 10th October 1940, after which it is superseded by the covername BRION.